

REMARKS

Claims 2-10 are pending, with claim 10 as the only independent claim. Claim 1 was previously cancelled.

Pursuant to the Examiner's requirement set forth in numbered paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the status identifiers of each of claims 2-9 is hereby appropriately corrected, and the amendments thereto are presented again. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the objection to claims 2-9.

In numbered paragraph 5 on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the claims would be allowable if amended to incorporate the subject matter at pages 8 and 9 of the specification and shown in Fig. 1. Claim 10 is hereby amended as described from lines 5-10 of paragraph 5 on page 4 of the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the preceding amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited. If any points remain in issue that the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
U.S. SERIAL NO. 08/997,368

ART UNIT 1733
Q48849

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees (except the Issue/Publication Fees) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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